

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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43

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 MC-02 ACDA-05 OMB-01 AID-05 IGA-01 /083 W

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P R 251420Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY SANA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6598

INFO AMEMBASSY JIDDA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USCINCEUR

COMIDEASTFOR

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANA 2962

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, MASS, YE, SA

SUBJECT: YEMENI MILITARY MISSION TO SAUDI ARABIA

1. SAUDI CHARGE ALI MUHAMMAD AL-GUFAIDI CALLED FRIDAY AFTERNOON, OCT 24, TO INFORM ME THAT ON INSTRUCTIONS FROM RIYADH HE HAS CONVEYED TO PRESIDENT HAMDY SAG READINESS TO WELCOME DEPUTY COMMANDER IN CHIEF AL-GHASHMI TO RIYADH ON NOV 4. AL-GUFAIDI SAID HE PASSED THIS WORD PERSONALLY TO PRES HAMDY ON THE PREVIOUS DAY, OCT 23, AND THE NEWS HAD ALREADY BEEN BROADCAST OVER THE YEMENI RADIO. THE PRESIDENT WAS OBVIOUSLY PLEASED WITH THE NEWS AND TOLD GUFAIDI THAT YARG WOULD IN A FEW DAYS BE GIVING THE SAUDIS THE NAMES OF THOSE ACCOMPANYING AL-GHASHMI.

2. IN ADDITION, GUFAIDI TOLD ME THAT PRINCE SULTAN ALSO INSTRUCTED HIM TO INFORM ME THAT I WAS CORRECT IN ASSURING PRES HAMDY OF SAUDI ARABIA'S READINEYL TO MOVE IN CONCERT WITH THE US TO MEET PROMPTLY YEMEN'S REQUEST FOR MILITARY EQUIPMENT. GUFAIDI SAID THAT HE HAD NOT PASSED THIS MESSAGE TO PRES HAMDY BUT THAT I WAS FREE TO DO SO IF I THOUGHT IT WOULD BE APPROPRIATE.

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3. COMMENT: I SAW GUFALDI SHORTLY AFTER MY VISIT WITH PRES
HAMDI IN THE COMPANY OF RADM T J BIGLEY ON OCT 21. I TOLD
GUFALDI OF HAMDI'S CONCERN OVER THE DELAY IN SETTING A DATE
FOR GHASHMI'S VISIT AS WELL AS OVER SAG'S INTENTIONS VIS-A-VIS
THE YEMENI REGIME. AT THAT TIME GUFALDI DID NOT INDICATE TO ME
WHAT HE INTENDED TO DO BUT IT IS OBVIOUS THAT HE IMMEDIATELY
RELAYED THIS INFORMATION TO RIYADH. HAMDI WILL NO DOUBT
ASCRIBE THIS QUICK SAUDI REACTION TO US INTERVENTION BUT TO MAKE
THE POINT EVEN MORE EXPLICIT I WILL CONVEY THE ABOVE TO HAMDI
THROUGH HIS PERSONAL ADVISER, AHMAD ABDO SAID.
SCOTES

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To: STATE
Type: TE
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